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FLOOR DEBATE

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of it. The by-products from ethanol that can be used as animal feed will not substantially replace the amount of corn being raised for animal feed. So by-products from ethanol production will not replace the grain grown for animal feed. The ethanol, which is produced from the corn that is used, will not be in sufficient quantity nor of a composition that it can replace petroleum-based fuels even in this country. The primary use for ethanol is in motor fuels and it is not as a motor fuel but as a motor fuel extender. And if you use all of the ethanol that's produced in this country for motor fuel, it would constitute less than 1 percent of the motor fuel used in this country, less than 1 percent. It could supply the nation's needs in motor fuel for 5 days at most. Now with all this ethanol production, do you think I'm dumb enough to believe that this country is going to be made independent of foreign oil; 50 percent of the oil used in this country comes from overseas? You think that I'm so dumb that I think these ethanol plants, which by the way don't exist all over the country, are going to produce enough ethanol to substantially bite into the oil imported into this country? When they started giving subsidies to ethanol in the seventies, and you move from that time to the present, and the subsidies have grown greater, there has been no significant decrease in the amount of foreign oil imported by this country. So you all stand up here talking about being energy independent, you are not going to reach that status by ethanol. Ethanol gets a federal subsidy. That's what creates a market for ethanol. It could not be produced without the subsidy. The subsidy is given because ADM and the big corporations give contributions to the politicians in the Democrat Party and in the "Republican" Party. That's how they get the federal government to keep the subsidy going. For all of the subsidy that ethanol gets, there is a subtracted amount from the federal roads program. At some point that piper is going to have to be paid. ADM and the rest of them will say, we have gotten as much out of this cash cow as we can, so now...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...we'll move to something else. They are going to continue refining corn into other products. Ethanol does not constitute a substantial portion of what they do as far